



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/020,531	12/14/2001	Sukhendu B. Dev	GENE1180-2	1163

7590 05/29/2003

Lisa A. Haile, J.D., Ph.D.
GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH LLP
Suite 1100
4365 Executive Drive
San Diego, CA 92121-2133

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

LAM, ANN Y

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1641	12

DATE MAILED: 05/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/020,531	DEV ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ann Y. Lam	1641

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

THE REPLY FILED 5/1/03 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on 01 May 2003. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
 - (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet.

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: none.

Claim(s) objected to: none.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-28.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10. Other: _____

Long V. Le
LONG V. LE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600

5/20/03

Ann Y. Lam

Continuation of 2. NOTE: Applicant's proposed amendment would require further consideration, for example, in claim 1, the position of the infusion opening, and the position of the second electrode for introducing a therapeutic agent would require further consideration. In any case, the proposed amendment does not overcome Leone et al. '700. The Leone et al. invention relates to iontophoresis as well as electroporation, which are both well known in the art to be methods of delivering drugs through use of electrical potential. Moreover, Leone et al. teaches electrical breakdown of a cell, see column 7, lines 41-44, which Examiner asserts would also allow substances to enter the cell.

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: of the reasons set forth in the last office action. Moreover, Leone et al. teaches that not only can the device be used to drive ionic medicaments toward a site, but "[t]he invention can also be used to effect drug release by electroporation, which is the electrical breakdown of cells which contain substances such as hemolytic compounds, genes and the like", see column 7, lines 41-44. Examiner asserts that such electrical breakdown of a cell is considered electroporation as claimed by applicant in that it would also allow substances to enter the cell.